

**WILLIAM (BILL) SPARWASSER  
LEADING NATIONAL CANDIDATE**



William (Bill) Sparwasser is a life member of Essex Squadron 148 in the Northern Central District of Maryland. Bill's eligibility is through his father, William T. Sparwasser, who is a member of Essex American Legion Post and Squadron 148. William T. Sparwasser served his country during the Korean War as a member of the 8<sup>th</sup> Fighter Bomber Squadron. His mother the late Carolyn A. Sparwasser, was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 148.

Bill has his own Legion Family. His wife Kelly and daughter Kristen are members of Unit 148. His two sons, BJ and Kevin, both are members of Essex Squadron 148.

Serving our veterans is and has been one of Bill's major objectives since joining the Sons of The American Legion. Bill is currently serving on the Board of Directors at the Maryland Center for Veterans Education and Training (MCVETS). For the past seven years Bill has been the state liaison for MCVETS. Currently he serves as a representative at VA Hospital Green Street, Baltimore, Maryland. He is also a member of the Board of Directors for the Luther-Lamkey Veterans Memorial Center.

Through the various positions held within the National, Detachment, and District levels of the Sons of The American Legion, Bill has gained the experience to assist him. He has served the Detachment of Maryland as Detachment Commander, First, Second, and Third Vice Commander, Publications Chairman and Convention Chairman. In addition, he has served as an Assistant Adjutant, VAVS Commission Chairman, Pride Staff, and VAVS Hospital Representative.

In addition to these accomplishments, he has served the Detachment of Maryland on the National level as the Chairman of Member Training and Development,, National Management Institute as Vice Chairman, Community Affairs, and Public Relations Committee. He has also served as Chief of Staff to the National Commander, Administrative Assistant to the National Commander, National Historian (1997-1998), three term National Assistant Adjutant, and Eastern Area National Vice Commander.

**SEAN D. HOWARTH  
CANDIDATE FOR COMMANDER**



The Brooklawn Memorial Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 72, and the Camden County Sons of the American Legion proudly endorse the name of Sean Howarth for the high office of Detachment Commander 2005-2006.

Sean's eligibility to the Sons is through his father, Past Department Commander Ted Howarth, who served in the Vietnam War era in the U. S. Navy and has been an American Legion member for 37 years.

Sean has been involved in the S. A. L. for 18 years. On the squadron level he has served on numerous committees and fund-raising events. He has chaired its Americanism, Children & Youth, Ways & Means, and Children's Christmas Party Committees.

Sean worked his way through the chairs and was elected Commander in 2002. While in office he co-chaired a committee that added two war memorial monuments listing those men from the community who gave the supreme sacrifice during World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. He is again #72's commander and continues to expand the War Memorial monuments improving walkways, adding canons.

On the county level, Sean has served as sergeant-at-arms, chaplain, vice commander, and presently as Camden County Detachment Executive Committeeman.

Sean has been involved at the detachment level for eight years. He is serving his fourth term as vice commander. In the past he has served as sergeant-at-arms and chaplain. He is presently Americanism Chairman. Sean has attended seven national conventions representing the Detachment of New Jersey.

At the Detachment Convention in Wildwood in 2002, Sean was honored with the "Son of the Year" Award, the first such award ever given by the Detachment of New Jersey.

In Sean's own words, "If I'm privileged to be elected, I will assist our veterans and their families and will assist our Department Commander and Auxiliary President in their endeavors to do the same. I will strive to get more people involved in the Sons of the American Legion to help carry out our programs. I look forward to working with everyone to make this the best organization ever."

**JOSEPH COLONTONE  
CANDIDATE FOR VICE COMMANDER**

Some of you know me, and some of you don't. My name is Joe Colontone. I am running for Detachment vice commander for 2005-2006 again. In the past year I hope I have made the Detachment proud. Some of my accomplishments are:

The Somerset Patriots Baseball Team honored all veterans at a ball game with a parade the evening before the game. My county, Hunterdon, treated fifty guests from Lyons V. A. Hospital to the game. I handed out 1,500 American flags to all fans and veterans attending. I hope to see more S. A. L. members at this affair next year.

Hunterdon County had a Welcome Home Parade and Reception for the 50st Finance Battalion returning from Iraq. The committee called me asking for donations of food, soda, and juices. As Hunterdon County S. A. L. Commander I approached the American Legion who worked with me providing the food. As Detachment Public Relations Chairman, I arranged for pictures in New Jersey and Pennsylvania newspapers.

Another event I attended was the POW-MIA Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Seaside American Legion. Too bad there weren't more S. A. L. members there as it was very impressive.

Commander Gary appointed me to chair the Ernie Wilson Scholarship Fund. In March I helped judge 31 high school senior applications. I hope to have the winner at this convention.

I worked with three squadrons in the past year that were losing members. Those three squadrons now have gone over the top in membership for the year.

I visited the Paramus V. A. Hospital for Christmas. The veterans needed gifts. So I donated 75 jigsaw puzzles and wrapped each one of them.

My accomplishments as a S. A. L. Member include for my squadron one year as chaplain and three years as adjutant, for my county four years as commander besides assuming the role again this year, on the detachment level one year as sergeant-at-arms and two years as vice commander.

It has been an honor serving as Detachment vice commander. I hope to get elected and serve you again.

**JAMES LIGHTCAP  
CANDIDATE FOR VICE COMMANDER**

I would like to introduce myself to the SAL members of New Jersey. My name is James Lightcap and I am seeking the position of Detachment Vice-commander. I have held the offices of commander, vice-commander, chaplain, and adjutant within my squadron. I am presently DEC for the newly formed Gloucester County. On Detachment level I have held the offices of chaplain and three time vice-commander. I am seeking a fourth. With your vote, I can proudly serve you as vice-commander for the 2005-2006 year as I have done in the past

**JOHN N. (JAY) GILLMAN  
CANDIDATE FOR VICE COMMANDER**

Jay has been a member of the Sons of the American Legion for seven years. He gained his eligibility through his father John P. Gillman who served in the Korean War. Jay has served Squadron 370 as chairman of many committees which include Sick Call & Relief, Constitution & By-Laws, and Veterans Rehabilitation. The constitution and by-laws for Squadron 370 were written while he was chairman of that committee. He has also participated in many fundraising events for Post 370's Legion Family. He has worked his way up the chairs to where he has served as squadron commander for 2000-2002.

On the county level Jay has served the Sons of the American Legion Camden County Committee as chaplain, senior vice commander, commander, and is presently serving as adjutant. Jay has also served as chairman of the Constitution & By-Laws Committee where the original constitution and by-laws for Camden County were written.

On the Detachment level, Jay has served as sergeant-at-arms and is currently Detachment chaplain. He is the chairman of two committees, Religious Emphasis and Constitution & By-Laws. He has also served as chairman of the Detachment Commander's Project for 2004-2005,

Jay has been married to his wife Jane for twelve years. They are currently living in Magnolia, where Jay has been a life-long resident.

If elected to the office of Detachment Vice Commander, Jay has been quoted as saying, "The promotion of membership growth and making visitations to assigned counties are a must and a priority."

**WILLIAM G. SCHIMMINGER  
CANDIDATE FOR CHAPLAIN**

William has been a member of the Sons of the American Legion for three years. He gained his eligibility through his grandfather James A. McGill who served in World War II. William became a member of Squadron 84, Oaklyn, serving as chaplain in 2002-2003. He next served as adjutant for 2003-2004. Then in 2004 he transferred to Edwin I. Johnson Squadron 370.

On the county level William is presently serving the Sons of the American Legion Camden County Committee as junior vice commander.

On the detachment level William served as historian last year and now serves as sergeant-at-arms. He is the chairman of two committees, namely Flag History & Dedication and Community Affairs.

William has been married to his wife Audry for four years. William has a daughter Nichole and a step-daughter Amanda. They currently reside in Blackwood.



On Flag Day, June 14 at 7:00 P. M. EST,  
please join America in reciting the  
Pledge of Allegiance